



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Director General

Mr Terry E. Branstad
Governor
Mr Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor
State Capitol Des Moines
Iowa 50319
Etats Unis

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By mail

2020 Olympic Programme

Dear Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds,

Thank you for your recent letter and for sharing your petition regarding the recommendation by the IOC Executive Board concerning the 2020 Olympic Programme.

Allow me to give you some background on the process of the Olympic Programme review for the 2020 Games.

The IOC regularly reviews the sports on the Olympic programme to ensure that it has the right mix to maintain the appeal and relevance of the Olympic Games. Following the decision taken by the IOC Session in Guatemala in 2007, the task before the IOC Executive Board in February was to recommend the right combination of 25 core sports based on a wide variety of factors. For example, it is important to strike the right balance between team sports and individual sports; between combat sports, races, matches and sports depending on judging; and between sports based on explosion and endurance.

Each core sport was assessed against 39 criteria determined by the Session and an additional 74 questions. The summary report presented to the EB members provided a general overview of the plusses and challenges of each sport. The following elements were listed:

- Institutional: to understand if the sport responds to expectations in terms of governance
- Technical elements: to understand the sport and its key components in the Olympic Games
- London data: to provide a view on public consumption and popularity

It is never an easy decision. In recommending 25 core sports for the Olympic programme for 2020, the members of the IOC Executive Board applied their collective wisdom gained through years of experience in all areas of sport — as competitors, as administrators and as Olympians. While wrestling has a number of strengths, history certainly being at the forefront, it must also be recognised that changes need to be introduced and FILA has already initiated this process.

Last week in St. Petersburg, wrestling joined seven other sports seeking a place on the Olympic programme for 2020 and delivered a presentation during the IOC Executive Board meeting in St Petersburg. The Executive Board recommended that baseball/softball,